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The following papers were presented for publication :

"Remarks on some new types of Carboniferous Crinoidea, with descriptions of new forms." By F. B. Meek and A. H. Worthen.

"Descriptions of seven new species of American Birds from various localities, with a note on *Zonotrichia melanotis*." By Geo. N. Lawrence.

"Analytical table of the species of *Baridius* inhabiting the United States." By John L. LeConte, M. D.

"The Gyrinidæ of America, north of Mexico." By John L. LeConte, M. D.

"Notes on the species of *Agonoderus*, *Bradycellus* and *Stenolophus* inhabiting America, north of Mexico." By John L. LeConte.

Dr. Leidy exhibited some photographs of fossil bones, received from Mr. W. E. Webb, Sec. of the National Land Co., at Topeka, Kansas. They represent vertebræ, and fragments of jaws with teeth, of a skeleton of *Mosasaurus*, reported by Mr. Webb to be about 70 feet in length, recently discovered on the great plains of Kansas, near Fort Wallace.

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Dec. 29th.

MR. JOS. JEANES in the Chair.

Fifty-three members present.

The following gentlemen were elected members :

Albert Peale, Franklin Platt, Jr., Edw. A. Spooner, M. D.

The following were elected correspondents :

Geo. Neville, of Calcutta, E. I. ; Rev. Dr. Joseph F. Berg, of New Brunswick, N. J.

The Committee to which was referred a paper, entitled "*Phosphorus and Fatty Degeneration*," reported in favor of its publication in the American Journal of Medical Science.

On favorable report of Committees, the following papers were ordered to be published :

**Notice of some remains of extinct INSECTIVORA from Dakota.**

BY JOSEPH LEIDY.

Dr. Hayden, in his trip to the Mauvaises Terres of White River, Dakota, in the summer of 1866, discovered the remains of two genera of insectivorous mammals, which appear to be peculiar, but related to the hedge-hogs.

*LEPTICTIS HAYDENI*. This name, appropriate to one of the animals, is founded upon a nearly entire skull devoid of the lower jaw. The specimen belonged to a mature animal, as indicated by the complete and worn condition of the teeth ; but the skull retains most of its sutures as distinctly as is usual in the Opossums. It is less in size than that of the Mink, and its shape is more canine than musteline. It bears some resemblance in form to that of the insectivorous genus *Glisorex*, or to that of the viverrine genus *Eupleres*.

The cranium is remarkable for the possession of a pair of prominent ridges defining the upper part of the temporal fossæ, as in the fossil cranium represented by De Blainville (*Osteographie*, *Mustela*, pl. xiv) under the name of *Mustela plesictis* from Auvergne, and by Gervais (*Pal. Fran.* pl. 28, fig. 2) 1868.]

under the name of *Mustela angustifrons*. Similar ridges, relatively less well-developed, exist in the Gray Fox.

The orbits are as little distinct from the temporal fossæ as in the Skunk or the European Hedge-hog.

The cranium back of the orbital spaces is conoidal and wider than high. It is narrowest just back of the postorbital eminences; relatively not so much constricted as in the Mink or Fox, though more than in the Skunk or European Hedge-hog.

The face is long, and tapers evenly to the end of the snout.

The palate is long, narrow and moderately arched, and exhibits no large perforations as in the Opossums.

The fossil retains most of the teeth, the number of which consists of seven molars, a canine and two incisors.

Of the molars the posterior four have broad trilateral crowns, with a number of points or tubercles, as in the Opossums and Hedge-hogs, or the back two in the Dog. The anterior three molars have simple, compressed conical crowns. The canine is comparatively small. Whether the animal possessed more than two incisors on each side is uncertain.

Measurements from the specimen are as follows:

Estimated length of skull from occipital foramen to fore part of incisive alveoli.....	29 lines.
Length of cranium frominion to fronto-nasal suture.....	18½ "
Breadth at zygomata.....	17½ "
Length of palate.....	15½ "
Length of molar series.....	11 "

*ICTOPS DAKOTENSIS*. This name is founded on a small fragment of a skull which was obtained with the preceding. At first the specimen was supposed to belong to the same animal as the former. It clearly indicates a skull of nearly the same size and shape as that of *Leptictis*.

The fragment consists of a portion of the face, containing the remains of most of the molar teeth. The face appears to have had nearly the same form and construction as in *Leptictis*, and the forehead exhibits traces of the two peculiar ridges defining the upper part of the temporal fossæ in the latter.

The remains of the molars consist of the posterior six. The second premolar appears to have been a two-fanged, conical crowned tooth, as in *Leptictis*. The third premolar has a trihedral crown, inserted by three fangs, whereas in *Leptictis*, as in the preceding tooth, it has a simple conical, crown with a pair of fangs.

The crown of the third premolar of *Ictops* is composed of three principal lobes, two external and the third internal. The four back molars have the same relative position and size as regards one another as in *Leptictis*, but they do not project abruptly beyond the premolars externally as in this. Their crowns, so far as can be ascertained, appear to have had the same construction as in the third premolar.

The space occupied by the back six molars in *Ictops* is ten lines, being a little more than in *Leptictis*.

#### Observations on REPTILES of the Old World. Art. II.

BY E. D. COPE.

*CHAMÆLEO BASILISCUS* Cope, sp. nov.

This species pertains to group *α*. of Gray's arrangement of the species of this genus (Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1864), that is, is nearest allied to *C. verrucosus* Gray, and *C. calyptratus* A. Dum. It has therefore a high longitudinal crest on the supraoccipital region, and the supraoccipito-mastoid crest is not furnished with any dermal margin of flap behind, but is the margin of a truncate face which is minutely scaled. No dorsal or ven-

[Dec.